

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 30, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. May 30 1907?

Dear Alec:

I am spending Decoration Day out here with David and Daisy. They are very happy here, and it is the ideal place for them. The way David works is a revelation, he jumps from one thing to another, in a way that would make conventional men's hair stand on end, but he is working with system in the bottom of apparent disorder.

We were up early this bright morning, David carried his baby all over the home grounds to observe things. After breakfast he invited me to help plant buckwheat for the squabs, we went along with seed box, spade, rake and presser, and wherever there was a bare space around a newly planted cherry tree etc., or drain line there he spaded and raked and dropped his seed. Here and there he went — for perhaps an hour, and then he dropped that and went to work carefully examining his tiny two leaf sprouts, this for about ten or fifteen minutes, then to the woods to get wild plants for other bare spaces. Then there were the carpenters to see, the new carriage to examine and then home with a queer knobbed stick with which he sat on the door step and drilled into an artistic poker handle, then in to lunch, and more work planting of delicate foreign seeds, a little of everything, something new something strange, something old but in different guise. Instead of grass, pretty weeds dug from the woods here or others from distant lands, poppies, asters, corn-flowers, scattered wherever a bit of bare ground offered space. No formal grass lawn is here needing constant care, instead these happy gay flowers growing as they like.

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May 31. Letter received, Mamma satisfied has letter, please answer telegrams I telegraphed about your cold, you promised to keep up irrigation.

Lovingly, Mabel.